

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Paragraph beginning at page 1, line 1 (amended):

The present invention relates to a heat sealable layer comprising at least two plies of substantially thermoplastic plastics and to a packaging material containing this heat sealable layer as a constituent. The multi-ply heat sealable layer is characterized in that at least one ply of these sealing layer has a composition which, at conventional heat sealing temperatures, is of a lower viscosity than that of the ply of the heat sealable layer facing towards the product. The multi-ply heat sealable layer according to the invention is distinguished by improved heat sealing characteristics, in particular by a combination of elevated seam strength immediately after heat sealing and rapid, hermetic ~~heat-sealability~~ heat-sealability without the formation of channels in the seam. Very high processing speeds may consequently be achieved. This invention also includes packaging materials which contain such a heat sealable layer. The present invention also provides the use of the multi-ply heat sealable layer and of the packaging materials containing this layer for the production of packages and the use of these packages for packaging foodstuffs and other goods.